

THE CALCUTTA JOURNAL,

OF

Politics and General Literature.

VOL. V.]

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1821.

[No. 243.]

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

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Politics of Europe.

We are still without later advices from England than those brought from Greenock, and it is probable that many days will yet elapse before direct intelligence from London of a later date than May will be received, nor are the expectations entertained at Madras or Bombay by the last accounts from thence more sanguine than our own. The next Ship will, however, most probably bring us more detailed accounts of public affairs in the months of April and May, as these have been hitherto gathered only from the abstract Reports of Weekly and Provincial Papers. Until then we must be content to make the best use of such materials as we possess through this channel, and as yet, at least, they are far from exhausted.

London, April 27.—A report, if correct, of great importance, prevailed yesterday. It is, that the Earl of Liverpool had been summoned to Brighton on Sunday, and had an audience of the King, upon a question pending in the Upper House of Parliament; that the probable result will be his Lordship's retirement, and the elevation of the Marquis of Londonderry (Lord Castle-reagh) to the situation of Prime Minister. We give this rumour as it has reached us, certain only of its existence, but unable to confirm or contradict it.—*Morning Herald.*

The Coronation.—Orders have been given to several confectioners and fruiterers to make preparations for the approaching Coronation Feast, which, it is now confidently stated, will take place on the 18th of June.

Smugglers.—The parties of smugglers along the coast are now become so numerous, that it is impossible the Preventive Service can muster sufficient men, during the short interval of time, to make any stand against men rendered desperate by a total want of employment.

British Peerage.—The number of Peers of Great Britain, independent of the Bishops, is exactly 500; of these 36 have become ennobled as courtiers; 19 as younger branches of Nobility; 29 as statesmen; 16 by diplomatic, 17 by naval, 57 by military, 39 by legal services; 30 by marriage; and 227 by the influence of wealth, &c. There are 92 bachelors, 64 widowers, and 344 who are married. Of the 408 married and widowers, 99 are without children; and the remaining 309 have now living 755 sons and 703 daughters. The paternal descent of 156 Peers can be traced to the Conquest, or 11th century; that of 51 to the 12th, 52 to the 13th, 35 to the 15th, 60 to the 16th, 59 to the 17th, and 3 to the 18th century; the genealogies of the remain 49 cannot be traced with sufficient accuracy to warrant insertion. The ancestors of 78 of the Peers, whose descent can be traced to the Conquest, were settled in England previous to that event; the other 78 came over with the Conqueror. Of the ancestors of the remainder, 31 have emigrated to this country since that period.

Discovery Ships.—The sailing of the discovery ships from Deptford will take place in a few days (May 4). The curiosity of the public to inspect them has perhaps exceeded that which took place previous to the last departure of Captain Parry. The ships may be said to be entirely free for the inspection of the public, as both Captain Parry and Captain Lyon have issued positive orders that no decent persons are to be refused admission, and that every facility be afforded them; for which purpose an officer attends to explain the various parts of the vessels. The method of stowing the provisions, &c., has been improved upon since

the last voyage, and the interstices between each cask, &c., filled up with coals, by which a much greater quantity of firing will be carried. The most extensive assortment of warm clothing is again provided; as also portable soups, preserved meats of all kinds, and every thing that can be considered as proper for such a perilous undertaking. The ships will take on board in Gallion's Reach, below Woolwich, their guns and ordnance stores, and proceed to the Nore, where the officers and crews will be paid part of their wages in advance. From thence they proceed direct to Hudson's Bay, where it is confidently expected some accounts of Lieut. Franklin will be obtained, as long before this he must have reached the Copper Mine River, and proceeded on the coast to the eastward of it.—His information will, in a great measure, decide the ulterior course of Captain Parry, but who is, notwithstanding, to examine the Welcome, and such other rivers as empty themselves into Hudson's Bay. The officers and crews are nearly the same as accompanied Captain Parry in his late expedition.

Major Gamble.—The late Major Thomas Gamble, of his Majesty's 47th regiment of foot, left by his will and codicils, which were proved in Doctors' Commons on the 16th of April, the sum of £14,500 five per cent. Bank Annuities, to be appropriated towards the payment of the National Debt, having, he says, acquired the fortune he was possessed of in the service of Government.

Steam Boat Navigation.—The facility now afforded by Steam Boat Navigation for visiting distant parts of the empire, whether on excursions of business or pleasure, with unprecedented expedition, was strikingly exemplified by a Gentleman of Greenock, who, on Saturday (April 14) set out from that town on a visit to the capital of the sister kingdom. He left that port in the *Rapid* Steam-packet at half-past two p. m. and arrived in Belfast on Sunday morning at six o'clock: there he spent the day; started for Dublin by the stage-coach on Monday at five a. m., and after a drive of about 100 English miles on the finest roads, and through the most fertile districts in the kingdom, arrived in the Irish metropolis at seven o'clock in the evening. Our informant spent the whole of Tuesday and Wednesday, in viewing the capital, and having gratified his curiosity as far as the time would permit, took his seat again in the coach at eight o'clock on Wednesday night; reached Belfast on Thursday forenoon at eleven, and re-embarked on board the *Rapid* at one p. m., landed at Greenock on Friday morning at four o'clock; thus completing an extensive and highly interesting trip in little more than five days and a half, at a comparatively small expense, the whole charges of conveyance to Dublin from hence being at the utmost about two guineas; while, should the weather prove favourable, the distance may be accomplished for something less, the outside of the stage between Dublin and Belfast, including the fees to guard and drivers, being only 13s. 6d. and the cabin fare of the steam-boat 21s.

Stamp Duties.—A bill is now in progress in the House of Commons to amend the acts relating to stamp duties, and it is intended, it is said, to introduce provisions respecting the legacy tax. It is proposed that the duty shall attach on all property assigned over, transferred, presented, or given away during life time, as well as when regularly bequeathed by the last will and testament. This new act is founded, it seems, on the practice which has prevailed, of evading the duty by assignments to trustees of property, and by presents during life.

Political Economy Club.—On Monday, April 30, there was a dinner at the Freemason's Tavern, Great Queen's-street, for the purpose of originating a Club, or Society for promoting the knowledge of the Science of Political Economy. There were twenty Gentlemen present, amongst them were Mr. Ricardo, Mr. Malthus, Mr. Keith Douglas, Mr. Holland, Colonel Torrens, Mr. Mill, Mr. Mushet, Mr. Tooke, &c. &c. A set of Rules for the government of the Club were read and adopted. We understand that the Members are to dine together once a month during the season, for the purpose of discussing questions connected with Economical Science.

Pay of the Guards.—A return to an order of the House of Commons states that the charge of a regiment of Life Guards, consisting of eight troops, of one farrier, 42 men per troop, and 274 troop horses for one day's pay is £65, 5s. 5d.;—total charge, including clothing, &c. for the year, £32,000, 16s. 8d. The charge of a regiment of horse guards, of eight troops, a farrier, 42 men per troop, and 274 troop horses, for one day's pay is £81, 8s. 1d.;—total charge, including clothing, &c. for the year, £30,188, 17s. 6d. The charge of a regiment of dragoon guards, consisting of eight troops, of 43 rank and file per troop, and 273 troop horses, for one day's pay is £49, 2s. 3d.;—total charge, including clothing, &c. for the year, £24,835, 12s. 11d.

Algerine Squadron.—Private letters from Gibraltar to the 4th April mention, that several Dutch, Spanish, and Hamburgh vessels of war, had combined, forming a squadron, for the purpose of cruising against the Algerine squadron, supposed to be at sea.

Tropical Fruits.—The introduction of steam, in metal pipes, for the purpose of warming forcing houses, instead of thick brick flues, and the improvement in the form, which admits of the ripening more fruit in a house built at a smaller price, renders it probable that they will become much more common, and that larger ones will be built, in which the tropical fruits may be ripened with facility; more especially as a greater and more regularly continued degree of heat may be furnished by steam at a comparatively trifling expense. Already the fruit of the *Grenadilla*, the *Loquat*, and the *Mango*, have been ripened in England; and it is probable that, at no very distant period, the *Ahi*, the *Avocado* pear, the *Flat Peach*, the *Mandarine Orange*, the *Litchi* of China, the *Mangosteen*, and the *Durion* of the East Indies, and other valuable fruits, will add to the luxury of the tables of the rich. One year in three has already been saved in the time of fruiting the Pine,—and we are led to suppose that the time is at no great distance, when this expensive fruit will be no longer an object of rarity, from the cost of its cultivation.

Vienna.—We have seen a private letter from Vienna, dated the 18th of April, which contains the following passage:—

"When the tide of success against the Neapolitans and the Piedmontese was at the highest, there is no doubt but that the question was started in the Congress of Laybach, whether the Allies, after the completion of their operations in Italy, should transfer their conquering armies to Spain, and that the affirmative side of it was taken both by Austria and Russia. The disposition was checked, however, by an absolute refusal, on the part of France, to suffer the troops to pass through."

Lord Petersham and Mr. Wedderburn.—A meeting took place at Coombe Wood on Saturday afternoon, (April 21) at three, between Lord Petersham and Mr. Webster Wedderburn; when, after exchanging two shots each, the seconds interfered and the affair terminated. Lord P.'s second was Lord Foley, and Mr. W. W.'s Mr. Keer. A correspondence between Lord Foley and Mr. W. Wedderburn, previous to the meeting, has been published.—[It will be recollected that Mr. Webster Wedderburn some time ago obtained damages from the Editor of a London paper, for insinuating that the Duke of Wellington paid too much attention to his wife, Lady Frances W. W., at Paris. It is supposed that, on the present occasion, Mr. W. W. did not approve of Lord Petersham's conduct to Lady Frances, but this is all conjecture, as the correspondence above alluded to throws no light on the business.]

An Astonishing Foot Race against Time, near Doncaster.—Yesterday afternoon, (Thursday the 19th of April) John Halton, of Stokesley, in the North Riding of this county, (who beat Beal at York) performed his match of ten miles and a quarter within the hour, in grand style. He ran a measured mile, in and out, on the north road, through Doncaster Bar to the foot of Lady Pitt's Bridge.—The match, we understand, was for six hundred guineas, and he won it with great ease. The performance as under:—

1st.	Two miles and a quarter,.....	11' 58"
2d.	Two miles,.....	11 10
3d.	Ditto,.....	11 33
4th.	Ditto,.....	11 51
5th.	Ditto,.....	11 51—58" 23"

This great pedestrian entered into the 26th year of his age yesterday (Thursday, the 19th of April).—*Doncaster Gazette.*

Deal.—Extract of a Letter—"The *Lapwing*, Capt. Gentil, has arrived in the Downs, in 27 days from St. Domingo.—On the 2d of April, in lat. 36° 50' long. 50° 42' fell in with a vessel, water-logged, called *The Three Brothers*, Capt. Hutchins, and took therefrom one person, James Munson, who says, that on the 2d March, being on the look out for Bermuda, a heavy squall came on, upset the vessel on her beam-ends, carried away the foremast, and filled her with water, washing the Captain overboard. They had, at this time, a little beet-root, bread, and flour, with a little water, but all soaked by the salt water. On this they subsisted for 17 days, and were then about to cast lots who should be killed, but the Mate advised they should wait till one died, which the poor fellow himself did the next day, (there were left four hands, the Captain's son having died shortly after his father was washed overboard), when Munson took the heart, &c. from the body of the Mate, dried it, and existed 13 days upon it. The other poor fellows could not partake of this disgusting food, and died the day after the Mate."

Singular Circumstance.—A bitch, belonging to a gentleman in Arbroath, was given away to a gentleman, who took her along with him in his carriage to Dundee. She pupped in the evening of her arrival there, and brought forth four; before morning she had them all carried back to Arbroath, a distance of more than seventeen miles.

Sutherland Highlanders.—On the 10th of April, as stated last week, the officers of the law proceeded with a strong military force to eject the tenantry of Strathbrora, which they effected without opposition. The people having taken the alarm on the approach of the military, carried out their furniture, and fled to the neighbouring hills, whence they surveyed the demolition of their houses. Mr. J. Macbean, Sheriff-officer, had been sent from Inverness with criminal letters against those who had been most active in the deforcement of the civil officers upon the former occasion; but though parties of men and women were seen moving about the hills, and were repeatedly pursued by the soldiers, only two men and a woman were apprehended, who were brought to Inverness in the mail, by the officer and lodged in jail, to stand trial on the 28th of April, for the alleged assault and rioting. Lieutenant Ash, a very active young officer, while with three soldiers pursuing one of the flying parties, came by an accident in crossing a deep stream, which was however attended with no other serious consequence than a severe ducking.—Heaps of stones were found concealed with turf, which, it is supposed, had been collected to give a warm reception to the officers, if they had not been supported by such an overwhelming force. Decree summonses of removal were afterwards issued against the tenantry of Gruids, who had also fled from their homes; the military, including the reinforcement which joined them last week, about 150 strong, are to be stationed in Sutherland, until the people of the Gruids are ejected at Whitsunday.—*Inverness Journal.*

Dr. Gregory.—The following remarkable circumstance is worthy of notice:—The late Dr. Gregory was the fourth Professor of his family, in a lineal descent, and from his ancestor, David Gregory of Kinairdy, he was the sixteenth descendant who had held a professorship in a British University.

Tuesday, September 11, 1821.

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Singular Suicide.—A boy, only twelve years of age, lately put an end to his existence, at Croydon, by shooting himself through the head with a gun-barrel, which he had previously loaded nearly to the muzzle with powder and a number of bullets. The youth, it is reported, had been, as he conceived, severely treated by some relations, and he repeatedly declared to his play fellows that he would sooner die than he would again be served so. His assertions were laughed at, for no one supposed that he was serious. Something of an unpleasant nature again occurred, and then he told two of his companions that he would shoot himself. He could not procure a gun or pistol, but was able to get a gun-barrel, and powder and ball. He took a walk with his sister to some distance from his home, and having lighted a match, he placed the muzzle of the barrel to his head, and set fire to the prime at the touch-hole. Previous to his doing the fatal act he sent his sister to his mother, to desire her to come to his assistance, and during her absence he fired the barrel, and blew nearly one-third of his head off. His mother found him a horrid spectacle—a lifeless corpse!

Melancholy Suicide.—On Sunday night, the 22d of April, about eight o'clock, a young man of respectable appearance was observed walking backwards and forwards in a very agitated state on Waterloo-bridge. At length he suddenly sprang upon the parapet nearly over the centre arch. A gentleman near the spot immediately ran towards him, in order to prevent him jumping off, but before he could possibly arrive thither, the unfortunate young man precipitated himself from the bridge into the water. An alarm was instantly given, and some watermen succeeded in rescuing the body, and they carried it to Waterloo House, at the Surrey side of the Bridge. Medical aid was procured, and every effort was made to restore this young man, but all proved ineffectual. A dreadful injury was discovered on one side, which must have proceeded from his falling on the base of one of the pillars attached to the bridge. In the course of the day he was owned; it turned out that his name was Whitten, a coal merchant, near Bankside. The cause assigned for his having committed this rash act is, that a short time previous to the last execution at the Old Bailey, the deceased visited one of the culprits with whom he had recently been acquainted, and it had such an effect upon his mind, that ever since a degree of melancholy had attached to him, and his conduct at intervals bordered on madness. He was between 20 and 30 years of age. He has left a wife and three children to lament his unhappy loss.

Odd Wager.—A wager to a considerable amount has been won, lately, by an officer of one of the regiments stationed in the neighbourhood of Plymouth, who undertook to beg from door to door, for the space of a fortnight; during which time he assumed different characters, but mostly as a broken down tradesman, and also a seller of matches; the latter character he did not so well support, for he carried the matches, wrapped in brown paper, under his arm, and wore gloves, having also an umbrella—articles of comfort not often used by the brimstone tribe.

Whitehall, April 18, 1821.—The King has been pleased to appoint Dr. Andrew Duncan, sen., to be First Physician to his Majesty in Scotland, in the room of Dr. Gregory, deceased.

Dublin.—The Mendicity Association of Dublin have at this time employed, under their auspices a considerable number of children, in lace making, straw work, and other easy manufactures, who a short time ago were destitute, and begging about the streets of that city.

Smuggling Cutter.—H. M. cutter *Swan*, Capt. Stewart, captured on the 1st of Feb. off the Staples, after an arduous chase of 5 hours, a most beautiful new smuggling cutter, called the *Midas*, out only three days from Flushing, on her first voyage, with a cargo, consisting of nearly 1300 five-gallon casks of geneva and brandy, with tea and tobacco, valued at from 9 to 10,000*l.* with a crew of 21 men; of whom one was killed, and two wounded. She has been taken into Shields.

Blankets.—The Dean and Chapter of Winchester have benevolently caused a number of blankets to be distributed among the necessitous families of that city and suburbs.

Baron Geramb.—The noted Baron Geramb, it appears from the French papers, five years ago renounced the world and all its vanities including even his enormous pair of whiskers, and has since led a most edifying life in the monastery of La Trappe.

Coxal Camp.—A splendid repast was given on lately, by Lord Oxford on the summit of Coxal Camp, where *Caractacus* held his meetings, on account of the coming of age of his son, Lord Harley. Lord Harley was seated under a canopy of evergreen. All the surrounding summits had bonfires; the Villages and Farms round were illuminated; and at the Mansion, in the vicinity of Brampton Brian, several oxen were given to the poor.

Veteran Battalions.—Part of the promised retrenchment in the military establishments, we understand, will be the reduction of 5,000 men in the Veteran Battalions. The saving to be effected in this way would, however, be but trifling, as the officers always receive full pay, and the men have pensions, from sixpence to a shilling a day, according to their service.—*Globe*.

Double Duty.—From the crowded state of the Church and Chapels at Brighton on Sundays, his Majesty has directed double duty to be performed in the Church, the expences of which for an additional Clergyman he will defray himself.

Prize Poem.—The subject for the present year at the University of Cambridge, for the *Seatonian* prize poem, is *The Old Age of Saint John the Evangelist*.

Ball at Bath.—Nearly eleven hundred persons, many of them of the first rank and title, were present at the Master of the Ceremonies' Ball, lately at Bath.

The Fifty Miles a Day Match.—Lieutenant Owen, who is trying at fifty miles a day in 12 hours each day, for twelve days, was in Worcestershire, on Saturday, the 6th day, he having done 300 miles. He first went to Exeter, from thence by Bath into Somersetshire, to Worcestershire, from whence he will pursue his course into the great North road should he be able to keep on, which is doubted. He has a lounging walk of five miles an hour, and like the pedestrian Powell, he often takes some wide strides for about a minute or two. He takes eleven hours and a half at his fifty miles, and generally halts twice, half an hour each time. He was a little lame on Saturday, and was within five minutes only of the twelve hours.—Betting is 3 to 1 against the accomplishment of the performance.

Tithe Feast.—Sir C. Hawkins, at his late tithe feast in the Parish of Probus, directed ten per cent. to be deducted from the composition entered into between him and his farmers previous to the last harvest. The worthy Baronet expressed his determination to protect and support agriculture by every means in his power, regarding, as he did, the farmers to be the mainstay of the country.

Legal Discovery Quashed.—Mr. Duncan Campbell's legal discovery that a person, in the case of being robbed, can only be required to give evidence against, and not to prosecute, the thief, was lately quashed.

Greenock, April 20.—Yesterday, at two o'clock the *Majestic* Steam Packet was launched from the building-yard of Messrs. John Scott and Sons in the finest style imaginable. The symmetry of this vessel is reckoned by connoisseurs in these matters to be of the first order, and, as she is to be fitted up in a splendid style, she promises to be, in every respect, the most elegant, as well as the largest vessel of this description hitherto built in Britain.—The *Majestic* admeasures 345 tons; her length aloft is 144 feet, and breadth 39 feet: she is to be propelled by two engines of the best construction, 50 horse power each. Four distinct cabins are to be fitted up in her, with every auxiliary accommodation requisite for the comfort of the passengers, and for which the extensive dimensions of the vessel give the utmost scope. She is intended to ply in concert with the *Superb* and *Robert Bruce* between this port and Liverpool.—We have heard it said, that the probable cost of this vessel, when completed, will be little short of 14,000*l.* She is expected to make her first trip early in June.

Libel on the King.—Yesterday evening, April 25, Thomas Dolby, the Radical publisher and caricaturist in the Strand, was arrested at his own house, on a Judge's warrant, by two tipstiffs of the King's Bench, for publishing a false and scandalous libel of and concerning the King's Most Excellent Majesty. The libel appeared in one of the numbers of a Radical work called "*The Pasquin*," and is of a most scurrilous nature. The prosecution of Dolby is carried on at the instance of the Bridge-street Society.

James Murray, who threatened to murder the Duke of Athol, in July 1820, was tried at the Perth Circuit, on the 14th of April, and sentenced to transportation for 7 years.

Lessons of Thrift.—It is said that to lend money is to incur two risks—of losing money, and of losing a friend. As to the latter, it is no great loss, as the world goes, and if one be lost one can buy another; but as to the money, that is of most serious import. It is the very life-blood, the vital current of society, and is never to be sported with. The state surgeons have bled us so freely, as a cure for political fever, that I tremble when I look at the meagre, exhausted, marasmous, consumptive state of my purse, one of the most noble and sensitive parts in the anatomy of a modern man. It is the true *primum sensorium* of the human system, affecting the mind as well as the body; for as to the old black letter word CONSCIENCE, it is to be found in no modern dictionary of any accompt (orthography!) or if by chance it occur in the glossary of antiquated expressions, it stands thus—CONSCIENCE *vide* PURSE.

Dreadful Suicide.—Last night (Thursday April 19), at eight o'clock, an inquisition was held at the house of Mr. Harris, the sign of the George and Crown, Bloomsbury, before Thomas Stirling, Esq. Coroner for the western division of the County of Middlesex, on view of the body of Mr. Alexander Murray, who shot himself. After the Jury were impanelled, and sworn, they proceeded up stairs to view the body, which lay in its clothes on the floor, which was covered with blood, and a more shocking sight we never remember to have witnessed. It appeared from the view taken, that the pistol with which he committed the melancholy act must have been overloaded, as it lay on the floor near the body, the barrel burst to pieces, and the pistol-hand dreadfully shattered. He must have put the muzzle of the pistol quite close to his heart, as the wound on the left side was wider than the mouth of a quart pot, and the heart intestines were exposed to view. The wadding and part of the clothes were lodged in the body, but the balls passed quite through and lodged in the wainscot. From the evidence taken before the Coroner, it appeared that the deceased, as a stranger, came on Monday night to lodge at Mr. Harris's. He had apartments to himself, and had plenty to pay for what he wanted. On Wednesday he came from a concert, went to bed, and not getting up at his usual hour next morning (Thursday), a servant went up stairs to his room to call him, when he was found as above described. On the table was a sealed letter directed to his father, — Murray, Esq. Brownlow-street, Holborn, which led to the discovery of his family. Also the following note, in a female hand, lay open on the table: "Miss Hatfield's compliments to Mr. Alexander Murray, requests he will in future decline his visits." The remainder of the letter was torn off; on the back was written with pencil, in his own hand writing, the following lines:—

"I am tired of life; there is only one thing can cure me,—a good pistol and ball is the only remedy left me. I die in peace with all mankind; in my pocket are two pieces of cornelian, which I wish to be given to Margaret to keep for my sake; my brooch I wish to be given to James. Adieu, ALEX. MURRAY."

The report of the pistol was heard about two hours before he was found dead, but not knowing from whence it proceeded, it passed unheeded. The poor afflicted father of the deceased stated several instances of mental derangement in the deceased, and particularly on Sunday last. The deceased was only eighteen years of age. The Jury, after some time, returned a verdict, & Shot himself in a state of mental derangement."

Widow of the late J. Scott, Esq.—An Evening Paper says—"We have heard from the most respectable authority that Messrs. Christie and Trail have inclosed with the greatest delicacy 500*l.* each to the widow of the late J. Scott, Esq. as a proof of their regret at the late unfortunate circumstances. It was sent, we understand, anonymously, as a tribute from two friends."

Death of an Eccentric Character.—Died (by falling down stairs) on the 24th of January, aged 70, Moses Langdon, Esq. of Upton, near Wiveliscombe, better known by the appellation of *Old Moses*, from the niggardly disposition he at all times evinced. In order to save expences he has been frequently known to pick, dress, and eat crows or magpies, found dead in the field by boys. He never kept any servant, but in order to save wages he gave an old woman from the workhouse her victuals to dress his; he was in the habit of frequenting Wiveliscombe, and put up at a small inn, where they dressed tripe, which he generally took for his dinner, and if any persons sitting near him left any on their plates, he always ate it up with great eagerness, saying it was a pity to waste any. When at home he wore the coarsest linen for shirts, but kept fine Holland ones, which he wore when he went a journey, and if he slept out, he invariably took the shirt off and lay without one, to prevent it being worn out. He died intestate, and his landed property to a considerable amount, falls to John Langdon, a second cousin, heretofore a day labourer, now John Langdon, Esq.—*Bath Herald*.

Longevity.—There are now living in the small healthy village of Nanney, Somersetshire, in the space of 120 yards, eleven persons, whose united ages amount to 872 years; which being added to the ages of 32 other persons residing in the same village, make a grand total of 3518 years, or, a fraction more than 81 years for each person.

Queen-Square.—On the 27th of April, a young lady came to this Office to claim the assistance of the Magistrates under the following circumstances:—She stated, that about three weeks ago she met with a gentleman at a friend's house, who paid her very great attention, and the result was, that he soon learned she had a large sum of money in the Funds, entirely at her own disposal, and he consequently made a formal proposal of marriage to her, and in a few days they were united. The first week passed on in happiness, but the second he became somewhat sullen and thoughtful; he obtained possession of all her papers, and she soon discovered that he had sold out all her stock; but she did not ask him any questions about it. On Thursday she went out to visit a friend, and, on her return, found the street door locked with a new padlock. On enquiring the cause, she was told by the neighbours that her husband had called in a broker, who took an inventory of all her furniture, and padlocked the door, having purchased them, and paid her husband the value of the goods.—She now wished the Magistrates to send some Officers to give her possession of the house, as she believed the broker had not yet carried off the goods. She therefore claimed their protection, as she had not a shilling left of all her property. Mr. Markland said, her case was extremely hard, but he could be of no assistance to her, because her husband was justified in disposing of the goods as he thought proper!—Complainant left the Office in tears!

Attempted Suicide.—Saturday morning a young man, apprentice to a collier lying off Execution Dock, attempted to put a period to his existence in the following manner:—He had received a slight correction that morning for some misconduct from his master, and soon after got unperceived on the yard-arm, to the end of which he tied a small cord; one end of it he adjusted by a noose round his neck, and then swung himself off; the noose giving way, he pitched on the deck, and before he could recover himself, fell overboard. A large dog, of the Newfoundland breed which was on board, jumped into the water, seized him by the collar, and swam with him ashore, when he soon recovered.

Soup.—The inhabitants of Andover, have entered into a subscription for the purpose of supplying the poor of that Parish with soup, during the present season.

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Enbripling away a Lady.

THE KING v. E. MOSTYN JONES, Esq. OLD BAILEY, THURSDAY,
APRIL 19, 1821.

This case, which excited an extraordinary degree of interest, came on to be tried at five o'clock in the evening, before the Common Sergeant.

The indictment charged the defendant, a gentleman of some property, and an Officer in the Army, with inveigling away Charlotte, the daughter of — Lovell, Esq. of Coal Park, in the county of Wilts; with taking a false oath before Dr. Merrick, the Surrogate of the diocese of Canterbury, in order to procure a marriage license; with procuring such license, marrying the young lady in fact; cohabiting with her as husband and wife during a space of six weeks, consoling her from her friends, and subsequently abandoning her.

Mr. ADOLPHUS with whom was Mr. Platt, opened the case for the prosecution. He stated the facts as they were recited in the indictment, and described the case as one of the most aggravated description. The young lady who was the object of the defendant's crime was the eldest of the nine children of Mr. Lovell, a gentleman of the county of Wilts. It had been generally understood that, under the will of her grandfather, she was entitled to a fortune of 30 or 40,000*l*. This bait, the Learned Counsel stated, had allured the defendant, who, in the month of June, 1820, met the young lady at some races near her father's house. He cultivated her affections; proposed for her in form; greatly exaggerated his own fortune and expectation; at first received an indecisive answer, but upon his true character and circumstances being made known was explicitly rejected by the lady's father, and appeared to relinquish the pursuit. In the course of a few months, however, the young lady, accompanied by two of her sisters, removed on a visit to the house of her uncle, Sir D. Gould, at Hawkhill, near Hatfield, in the county of Herts; thither the defendant followed her, and, taking advantage of the absence of Sir David and Lady Gould on a Sunday when the young lady remained at home confined with the whooping cough, he, partly by force and partly by persuasion, forced Miss Lovell into a gig, in which he conveyed her to London. Defendant had previously, by taking the false oath laid in the indictment, obtained a license for a marriage, which was to have been celebrated in St. Martin's Church (in the Fields), but for the interference of Sir D. Gould. The unfortunate young lady was, however, married in fact, but the defendant soon discovered that the marriage was not good in law, and therefore insufficient to entitle him to her fortune. He accordingly took steps to effect a legal marriage by banns, but while the publication of banns was in progress, he again discovered that the expected fortune was not so great or not so certain as he had supposed, and then took the resolution of abandoning this unhappy young creature of 19 to all the infamy and wretchedness to which he had exposed her. In the meantime, the miserable father, in earnest pursuit of his child, met her seducer, and remonstrated with him upon the injury he had inflicted. A legal marriage was spoken of, but the defendant declared himself inexorable except on terms of pecuniary advantage, and refused even to restore his victim except upon condition of being reimbursed in all that he had bestowed upon her capture, and, moreover, handsomely paid for his toil in reducing the unfortunate lady to her present condition: this last proposition, the Learned Counsel observed, was made in terms too gross to be unnecessarily repeated. At length the unhappy father recovered his ruined child, and he found her in the last stage of wretchedness, her clothes being detained for the rent of her miserable lodging.—Mr. Adolphus's statement was made throughout with an eloquence which does not often adorn the administration of justice in this country; and his observations upon the state in which Miss Lovell was found by her father called forth from the audience such an expression as we never before witnessed.

Mr. ALLEY, for the defendant, with whom was Mr. Andrews, submitted several objections in point of law, they principally related to the vagueness and generality of the indictment. The Common Sergeant declared that the inclination of his mind was in favour of the objections submitted by defendant's counsel; but said that he would nevertheless suffer the trial to proceed, leaving the merits of the indictment to be decided upon a motion in arrest of judgment. A number of witnesses were examined, among others Miss Frances Lovell, second daughter of the prosecutor, an intelligent and extremely beautiful young lady.—At twelve o'clock the jury returned a verdict of Guilty.

He was admitted to bail, to appear the first day of the next Session, for judgment, himself in 200*l*. and two sureties in 100*l*. each. This was immediately complied with and he left the Court.

Parliamentary Reform.

In consequence of a requisition to J. Marshall, Esq., High Sheriff of the County of Cumberland, a meeting of the Centry, Clergy, Freeholders, &c. of that county, was held at Wigton, on Thursday, April 5, being Lady-fair day, to petition Parliament for a diminution of the public burthens, a reform in the system of representation, &c. Hastings were erected in a field immediately behind the King's Arms inn: the attendance was very numerous. About two o'clock, the High Sheriff ascended the hustings, attended by Sir F. P. Vane, Bart., Henry Brougham, Esq. M. P., J. R. G. Graham, Esq. M. P., Wilfrid Lawson, Esq., William Crackenthorpe, Esq., Henry Curwen, Esq., William Brown, Esq., Wm. Bleaymire, Esq., Thomas Hutton, Esq., John Thompson, Esq., Captain Backhouse, Rev. John Benson, &c. &c.

Mr. GRAHAM, younger of Netherby, M. P., moved the Resolutions, which were seconded by Mr. LAWSON of Brayton Hall. Mr. BROWNE of Tallentyre-hall, in an able, but rather gloomy speech, supported the resolutions, which were carried unanimously. A very full report of the proceedings appears in the *Carlisle Patriot* of Saturday, the 7th, but we have only room for Mr. Brougham's speech.

HENRY BROUGHAM, Esq. M. P., came forward, and was received with loud cheering. On taking off his hat, the High Sheriff requested that the meeting would allow Mr. B. to address them covered, on account of his ill health. (*cheers, and cries of "to be sure, certainly," &c.*)—Mr. Brougham proceeded. He thanked them for their kindness, in permitting him to remain covered. It was true that, in addressing them, he felt a considerable degree of pain, arising from sickness; he had, indeed, come from a sick-bed, from which nothing should have called him but an ardent wish to discharge his duty as a Cumberland freeholder. The sight which he saw before him was enough to make a sick man whole; and, he might say, some whole men sick—(*a laugh*);—he meant those who lived upon the plunder drawn from the people—those who never heard of meetings like the present, but heard the knell of their hopes. It was his (Mr. Brougham's) opinion, that constitutional meetings like the present could not fail of ultimately bringing about that reform which would restore to Englishmen their birthright—a full, fair, and free representation of the people in the House of Commons.—(*applause.*) It would have been needless for him, had he been more in health, to have said any thing after the arguments which had been urged. He did not, however, despond so much as his friend Mr. Browne.—In saying this, he did not mean to beguile the freeholders by any strong hope that their prayers would be attended to. On the contrary, he knew the House of Commons too well to expect that this would be the result. If every county in England, like Cumberland, would petition peaceably and lawfully, it was his opinion that some reform in Parliament would take place. He thought this, because he saw the progress which the question was making—he saw the fears and prejudices of the timid gradually diminishing; the question of reform had marched within the last two or three years with a rapidity unexampled in the history of any other political subject.

He was much mistaken if, on the approaching discussion of the question in the House of Commons, it did not obtain greater support, both in numbers and in argument, than it, as yet, had ever met with—if the friends of the measure were not more active, and its enemies fewer and less determined. There was a considerable alteration of opinion upon this topic within the walls of Parliament, as well as without; and he would repeat, he was much deceived if it did not meet with more advocates in debate, and more votes on division, than it ever had done. He wished however, by no means to delude them upon the state of the country, his hopes were far from sanguine; but he did not think that there was that cause for despondency which his friend Mr. Browne had expressed; He entirely agreed with his honourable friend (Mr. Graham) that the principal cause of our distresses was an intolerable load of taxes. There was no way of removing this grievance but by honest Representatives—men who would be willing to take off such a portion of taxes as would be universally felt. For 30 or 35 years, taxation had gone on increasing with rapid strides; and unless an effectual check was put to its march, he was afraid all other methods of relieving the distress would prove illusory. At all events, he should like to see an administration from which they might get, at least, good words—for, even this, they did not get from the present men. He indulged a hope that such an administration would one day obtain power. One thing, however, was certain—that, without retrenchment, neither the government nor the country could any longer exist. Without such retrenchment—without such a diminution of taxes as would affect all classes—as would restore not only peace, but prosperity, to the nation at large—he believed the government, the country, and all, would be overwhelmed in ruin. (*applause.*) He trusted they would excuse the shortness of his address, on account of his health; and concluded by expressing the pleasure he felt at all times in meeting his brother-freeholders of Cumberland. He then moved the thanks of the meeting to the High Sheriff, which were carried by acclamation, and the meeting broke up.

Origin of the Story of Kenilworth.

At the west end of the Church of Cumnor, (says Ashmole, in his *Antiquities of Berkshire*.) are the ruins of a manor, anciently belonging, as a cell or place of removal as some report, to the monks of Abingdon. There is, also, in the said house, a chamber, called Dudley's chamber, where the Earl of Leicester's wife was murdered, of which this is the story following:—

Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, a very goodly personage, and singularly well featured, being a great favourite to Queen Elizabeth, it was thought, and commonly reported, that had he been a bachelor or widower, the Queen would have made him her husband; to this end, to free himself of all obstacles, he commands, or perhaps with fair flattering intreaties, desires his wife to repose herself here, at his servant Anthony Forster's house, who then lived in the aforesaid manor-house; and also prescribed to Sir Richard Varney, (a prompter to his design) at his coming thither, that he should first attempt to poison her, and if that did not take effect, then by any other way whatever to dispatch her.

This, it seems, was proved by the report of Doctor Walter Bayly, sometime Fellow of New College, then living at Oxford, and professor of physic in that University, who, because he would not consent to take away her life by poison, the Earl endeavoured to displace from the Court. This man, it seems, reported for most certain, that there was a practice in Cumnor among the conspirators to have poisoned this young lady, a little before she was killed, which was attempted after this manner. They seeing the good lady sad and heavy, (as one that well knew by her other handling that her death was not far off,) began to persuade her that the present disease was abundance of melancholy, and other humours, &c., and, therefore, would needs counsel her to take some potion, which she absolutely refused to do, as still suspecting the worst; whereupon they sent a messenger on a day (unawares to her) for Dr. Bayly, and intreated him to persuade her to take some little potion by his direction, and they would fetch the same at Oxford, meaning to have added something of their own for her comfort, as the doctor upon just cause and consideration did suspect, seeing their great importunity, and the small need the lady had of a physician; and therefore, he peremptorily denied their request, misdoubting, (as he said afterwards), lest if they had poisoned her under the name of his potion, he might have been hanged for a colour of their sin; and the doctor remained still well assured, that this way taking no effect, she would not escape their violence, which afterwards happened thus:—

For Richard Varney above said, (the chief projector in this design), who by the Earl's order remained that day of her death alone with her, with one man only, and Forster, who had that day forcibly sent away all her servants to Abingdon market, about three miles distant from this place, they (I say, whether first stifling her, or else strangling her) afterwards flung her down a pair of stairs, and broke her neck, using much violence upon her; but however, though it was vulgarly reported that she by chance fell down stairs, (but yet without hurting her head that was upon her head,) yet the inhabitants will tell you there, that she was conveyed from her usual chamber where she lay, to another where the bed's head of the chamber stood close to a privy postern door, where they in the night came and stifled her in the bed, bruised her head very much, broke her neck, and at length flung her down stairs, thereby believing the world would have thought it a mischance, and so have blinded their villainy. But behold the mercy and justice of God in revenging and discovering this lady's murder; for one of the persons that was a coadjutor in this murder, was afterwards taken for a felony in the marshes of Wales, and offering to publish the manner of the aforesaid murder, was quickly and privately made ways with in the prison by the Earl's appointment. And Sir R. Varney, the other, dying about the same time in London, cried miserably, and blasphemed God, and said to a person of note (who hath related the same to others since) not long before his death, that all the devils in hell did tear him to pieces.

Forster likewise, after this fact, being a man formerly addicted to hospitality, company, mirth and music, was afterwards observed to forsake all this, and with melancholy and pensiveness (some say with madness) pined away. The wife also of Bald Butler, kinsman to the Earl, gave out the whole fact a little before his death. Neither are these following passages to be forgotten, that as soon as ever she was murdered, they made great haste to bury her, before the coroner had given in his inquest, (which the Earl himself condemned as not done advisedly), which her father or Sir John Robertseet (as I suppose, hearing of, came with all speed thither, caused her corpse to be taken up, the coroner to sit upon her, and for enquiry to be made concerning this business to the full; but it was generally thought the Earl stopped his mouth, and made up the business between them; and the good Earl, to make plain to the world the great love he bore to her when alive, what a grief the loss of so virtuous a lady was to his tender heart, caused (though the thing was

beaten into the heads of the principal men of the University of Oxford) her body to be reburied in St. Mary's Church, in Oxford, with great pomp and solemnity. It is remarkable, when Dr. Babington, the Earl's Chaplain, did preach the funeral sermon, he tript once or twice in his speech, by recommending to their memories that virtuous lady so "pitifully murdered," instead of saying "pitifully slain." This Earl, after all his murders and poisonings was himself poisoned by that which was prepared for others, (some say by his wife,) at Cornbury Lodge, before-mentioned, though Baker, in his *Chronicle*, would have it at Killingworth. Anno 1588.

Mr. Hobhouse's Speech.

In the Parliamentary Report of the Discussion on Mr. Lambton's Motion for the House to go into a Committee on the State of the Representation in England, which was taken by us from the Madras Papers, the Speech of Mr. Hobhouse was given in so brief a manner, as to lead to an inference that he took very little interest in the Discussion. In the Scotch Papers, brought by the *Clydesdale*, we have found a fuller Report of this, which we deem sufficiently interesting to insert at length, altho' the issue of the Debate is already known:—

MR. HOBHOUSE said, that if it were necessary for the Hon. Member who spoke last to entreat the patience of the House, it was much more necessary for him to do so, feeling as he did his incompetency to the task he had undertaken. He would, however, state those opinions he conscientiously entertained. The Hon. Gentleman (Mr. Wilmot) said, that nations, when they tried to do so, could not, by one step, arrive at freedom from a state of oppression and slavery. The observation could not apply to them, however applicable it might be to other nations. They were not emerging from slavery, but he did not know how soon they might fall into it; and it was with the view of preventing so fatal an event that his Hon. Friend (Mr. Lambton) brought forward the present motion. Enough had been said by his Hon. Friend to prove that Parliament was quite different now to what it had been in former times, with respect to its numbers, its duration, its constitution, and the system of election. It was justly remarked by Mr. Hume, that the history of this country was a history of perpetual change; and Mr. Fox had well observed, that no innovation could be greater in the constitution of that House, than to decide that no innovation was to be attempted. For himself he could see no argument, no good reason against the necessity, the propriety, and utility of Reform. Just as with respect to numbers, there was no fixed principles. In the time of Henry VI. the number of Members in that House amounted to no more than 300. In the time of Henry VIII. 31 more were added, and 13 in the reign of Elizabeth. Westminster first sent Members in the time of Edward VI. and James I. added the Universities. At the Restoration 72 places were disqualified that formerly sent Members to Parliament; 36 were subsequently restored to their franchise. A mistake, however, had been made in the number of places disqualified, for they amounted, he believed, to 79. The number of places entitled to send Members having thus varied, they must now surely have a right to legislate on the frame of Parliament. The franchise was also changed. It was not known exactly what places formerly had a franchise. This was the case with respect even to Westminster itself; for a Committee sat on the subject during two whole years, and they then reported that they might sit during the remaining part of the Session of Parliament, without coming to a decision. As to the duration of Parliament it was first sessional, then held twice a year, subsequently annual, and afterwards biennial, triennial, and septennial. With respect therefore to the numbers, the duration, and the franchise, there was a variability in the constitution of Parliament. There was a variability also in its character. It differed materially in the time of the Plantagenets, the Tudors, and the Stuarts. The character of Parliament, in better times, might be fairly taken from the Statutes against Corruption in different periods, as compared with the revenue. At the Revolution, the revenue was 1,200,000*l.* and the Statutes against Corruption 14. In 1792, the Statutes against Corruption were 95, and the increase in the revenue was proportionate. In 1818, the revenue amounted to 64,500,000*l.* Adding to this source of influence, the East Indies, the Board of Control, the Leeward Island duties, and 169,000*l.* paid in pensions, by a parity of reasoning, a proportionate change must have been effected through means of corruption in the constitution of the House. Looking to these circumstances, he had a right to say that the House of Commons, as it now existed, was a mere mushroom, suddenly sprung up from the unfortunate circumstances of the times. It was not therefore proposing any innovation to make some effort at bringing it back to the principles on which it formerly stood. He had of late frequently heard it asserted that the influence of the Crown had not increased. In the beginning of the last century, Mr. Hutchinson asserted, that the influence of the Crown sent between thirty and forty Members to that House. It had not decreased thirty years after; for when Mr. Henry Cox was called to account for his disbursement of the public

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money, allowance was made, as a thing of course, for the sums necessary to influence thirty or forty Members of that House. It was impossible to say that the House had not changed its character; and the end of the system pursued was that which had been foretold by Mr. Hutchinson, that the House of Commons would become a third estate independent of the people of England. This was now actually the case. He defied any man, however great his talent or eloquence might be, to disprove it. They had a House of Commons not representing the opinions of the people; in place of being so constituted, that when a majority spoke their sentiments it would be decisive immediately of what was public opinion. He defied any person to show that it was the intention of the Constitution to have the country governed by such an Oligarchy. When the question of Parliamentary Reform was introduced, the objection was that all who supported it differed in their opinions, that they proceeded upon contradictory views, and that it was impossible to ascertain precisely what their object was, or how far they intended to go. It was very remarkable that, in the beginning, the same objection was made against introducing the Reformation into this country. There were then in Germany twelve different sects of Reformers. Lutherans, Calvinists, and various others, and it was asked which system of Reform they would introduce into England? The unity of the Catholic Church was opposed to this diversity of opinion. If this objection were listened to, they would in all probability have never enjoyed the benefits of the Reformation. He hoped, notwithstanding similar objections, that all Reformers would now unite for the purpose of making such a change as would cause that House to sympathise in the most perfect manner possible with the wishes of the people. He differed in some points from his hon. friend (Mr. Lambton); but agreeing with him in the main object of his motion, he would support it. He objected to Boroughs, inasmuch as they were made an article of traffic. An Oligarchy governing in this manner, however tolerable it might be otherwise, was ruinous to the country; for those who bought a borough must of course expect and look for a return in some other way. As to Annual Parliaments, the people had a right to them by usage. From the time of the Conquest to Edward II. they were held two or three times a year; and it had been satisfactorily proved that those were not merely sessions of the same Parliament, but that an election took place for each. Lord Raymond was of opinion that annual Parliaments could never be departed from without injury to the Constitution. (Here the hon. member took a cursory view of those who supported Parliamentary Reform from the time of Lord Shaftesbury to Mr. Pitt.) It was an error to suppose that the House of Commons voted away the Lords in the time of the Rebellion. The Parliament of that day was not the Parliament of England; for it was, by being purged various times, reduced to 97, 67 of whom sat for boroughs. The Family now on the throne need not fear extending the privileges of the people. In the Rebellion of 1745, when the Aristocracy favoured the Pretender, he was not joined on his march towards England by more than three hundred of the people.

The Honorable Member concluded a speech full of learned reference and quotation by referring to the Liverpool speech of Mr. Canning, in defence of the present Constitution of the House of Commons, which speech had been called unanswered and unanswerable. The unanswered and unanswerable speech had represented the House of Commons as being like Aaron's rod, and having swallowed up all the other branches of the Legislature. That was the very thing the Reformers complained of. That House had swallowed up the prerogatives of the Crown, and the privileges of the people. The unanswered and unanswerable speech alluded to the Parliament of 1745. But that Parliament, as he had already shown, had no more right to act as they had done, than the present Parliament had to act as they were acting. —(cheers.) Coke stated the case of the Mayor of Whithury, who had disposed of a seat in that House for 4*l*. (Hon. Gentlemen might consider that a very reasonable price,) and who had been punished for having poisoned the fountain of correct Government. It was remarkable that Mr. Locke made use of the very same expression. —Yet now it was asserted that the poison was found necessary. But if corruption had been really necessary, why had so many laws been made against it? It had often been urged that corruption was a very good thing, for many clever individuals were by that system brought into Parliament. What if many clever individuals were so brought into Parliament—the people wanted not a clever speaker, but a man who would act honestly, and represent their situation and wants. It had been well stated, in a pamphlet just published on this subject; ("A Statement of the Question of Parliamentary Reform,") that it was no satisfaction to you that the lock and trigger were in good order if the muzzle was directed against yourself. But the people would return men whose talents and integrity would promote the interests of their country. It was not fit to hold the understandings of the people so cheap as it was the fashion with some Hon. Members to hold them.

"Amongst the other excellent qualifications attributed to the House of Commons as now constituted," said the Honorable Member "should

not be forgotten that which has been lately assigned to it, namely, that "the demagogue finds his level and shrinks to his proper dimensions in six months when once admitted to this assembly;" to this was added, that in case Parliament should be reformed, it would be expedient to retain a nest of close Boroughs, for insuring the introduction of the said demagogues into the Senate at all times. Now as to the latter recommendation, it arose, I imagine, from the confusion of ideas to which the eagerness to say a smart thing at all hazards will expose even the most experienced debater; for it is the great complaint of the anti-Reformers, that in a reformed Parliament there would be such an inundation, as it were, of more popular orators, that none but such characters would compose this House under the new form of construction. However, let us not, as I before said, imagine that this hint as to the nest of boroughs arose from any thing more than the wantonness of the moment. But to turn to the engly passed on the House. If it be true that it is framed so happily as to afford a touchstone to the pretensions of public men; to strip the tinsel off a coxcomb who would otherwise remain undetected, then indeed it performs a service to the community. If it shows the value of sounding words and big promises, and displays the treachery of pretended patriotism, it is also of much use. I suspect, however, that all that can be fairly collected from this engly is, that the demagogue has but one vote in this House, and that he is not gifted with the extraordinary quality of inducing men to decide against their own interest, and make a voluntary resignation of their own power. If, however, the demagogue is but six months in finding his level, in shrinking to his proper dimensions here, there is a description of persons that do not in six months, no, nor in thirty years, find their level, and shrink to their proper dimensions here. These are the regular adventurers, the downright trading politicians. The House will easily suggest to itself the sort of being to which I allude; but to prevent mistakes, I would presume to attempt a portrait, not finished, but not exaggerated. A smart six-form boy, the little hero of a little world, matures his precocious parts at college, and sends before him his fame to the metropolis: a Minister or some Borough-holder of the day thinks him worth saving from his democratic associates, and from the unprofitable principles which the thoughtless enthusiasm of youth may have inclined him hitherto to adopt. The hopeful youth yields at once; and, placed in the true line of promotion, he takes his seat with the more veteran prostitutes of Parliament. There he mends his periods; there he balances his antitheses; there he adjusts his alliterations; and, filling up the interstices of his piebald patchwork rhetoric with froth and foam—this master of pompous nothings becomes first favourite of the great Council of the Nation. His very want of sincerity and virtue qualifies him for a corrupted audience, who look upon his parts as an excuse for their degeneracy, and regard him not only as the partner, but as the apologist of their common degradation. Such a man may have notoriously spurned at every principle of public morality and public honour; he may have by turns insulted, derided, betrayed, and crouched to every party, or at least every politician in the State. Sometimes he may have shewn all the arrogance of success, at other times have displayed the true tameness of an underling, and have submitted to serve under those in public whom he has conspired in private to ruin and destroy. Yet this man—with

"Beauty that shocks you, parts that none can trust,

"Wit that can creep, and pride that licks the dust;—

this man, I say, shall be courted and caressed in Parliament, and he shall never be so much admired, never so much applauded, as when playing off his buffonery at the expense of public virtue—as when depreciating the understandings or mocking the sufferings of the people. Such a man does not find his level, he does not shrink to his proper dimensions, in the unreformed House; on the contrary, he is the true House-of-Commons hero. Despised and detested as may be without doors, he finds a shelter in the bosom of the Senate! sunk as he may be in public opinion, he there attains to an eminence which raises him for the time above the scorn of his fellow-countrymen. True, his fame is not lasting; but for the moment he is the glory and the shame of Parliament: no one equals him on this stage:—

"Him thus exalted, for a wit we own,

"And court him as top-fiddle of the town."

Such a man, I say, Sir, would have no place in a reformed Parliament; and if he be either useful or ornamental in a deliberative assembly, it is for him that should be reserved that nest of boroughs which it has been proposed to keep solely for the demagogues. Talents without character would be banished from such an assembly; and the honest discharge of a sacred trust would be the first, instead of the last requisite of a public man."

Europe Marriage.

On the 23d of April, by special license, at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, London, by his Grace the Archbishop of York, the Right Honorable Heneage, Earl of Aylesford, to the Right Honorable Lady Augusta Sophia Greville, sister to the Earl of Warwick.

A Bachelor's Journal.

The following Journal was evidently never intended to see the light. It may, therefore be viewed as probably the most *sincere* self-memoir that ever was penned:—

Ætatis 30. Looked back, through a vista, of ten years. Remembered that, at twenty, I looked upon a man of thirty as a middle-aged man; wondered at my error, and protected the middle-age to forty. Said to myself, "Forty is the age of wisdom." Reflected generally upon past life; wished myself twenty again; and exclaimed "If I were but twenty, what a scholar I would be at thirty! but it is too late now." Looked in the glass; still youthful, but getting rather fat. Young days, "a fool at forty is a fool indeed;" forty therefore must be the age of wisdom.

31. Read in the *Morning Chronicle*, that a watchmaker in Paris, aged thirty-one, had shot himself for love. More fool the watchmaker! Agreed that nobody fell in love after twenty. Quoted Sterne, "The expression *fall in love*, evidently shews love to be *beneath* a man." Went to Drurylane; saw Miss Crotch in Rosetta, and fell in love with her. Received her ultimatum: none but Matrimonians need apply. Was three months making up my mind (a long time for making up such a little parcel) when Kitty Crotch eloped with Lord Buskin. Pretended to be very glad. Took three turns up and down the library, and looked in the glass. Getting rather fat and florid. Met a friend in Gray's Inn, who said I was evidently in *rude* health. Thought the compliment ruder than the health.

32. Passion for dancing rather on the decline. Voted sitting out play and farce one of the impossibilities. Still in a stage-box three nights per week. Sympathized with the public in vexation, occasioned by non-attendance the other three: can't please every body. Began to wonder at the pleasure of kicking one's heels on a chalked floor till four in the morning. Sold my bay mare, who reared at three carriages, and shook me out of the saddle. Thought saddle-making rather worse than formerly. Hair growing thin.

33. Hair thinner. Serious thoughts of a wig. Met Colonel Buckhorse, who wears one. Devil in a bush. Serious thoughts of letting it alone. Met a fellow Etonian in the Green Park, who told me I wore well: wondered what he could mean. Gave up cricket club, on account of the bad air about Paddington; could not run in it, without being out of breath.

34. Measured for a new coat. Tailor proposed fresh measure, hinting something about bulk. Old measure too short; parchment shrinks. Shortened my morning ride to Hampstead and Highgate, and wondered what people could see at Hendon. Determined not to marry: means, expensive; end, dubious. Counted eighteen bald heads in the pit at the Opera. So much the better; the more the merrier.

35. Tried on an old great coat, and found it an old little one: cloth shrinks as well as parchment. Red face on putting on shoes. Bought a shoe-horn. Remember quizzing my uncle George for using one: then young and foolish. Brother Charles's wife lay-in of her eighth child. Served him right for marrying at twenty-one: age of discretion too! Hunting-belts for gentlemen hung up in glover's windows. Longed to buy one, but two women in shop cheapening mittens. Three grey hairs in left eye-brow.

36. Several grey hairs in whiskers: all owing to carelessness in manufactory of shaving-soap. Remember thinking my father an old man at thirty-six. Settled the point! Men grew old sooner in former days. Laid blame upon flapped waistcoats and tie-wigs. Skaited on the Serpentine. Gout: Very foolish exercise, only fit for boys. Gave skaits to Charles's eldest son.

37. Fell in love again. Rather pleased to find myself not too old for the passion. Emma only nineteen. What then? women require protectors; day settled; devilishly frightened; too late to get off. Luckily jilted. Emma married George Parker one day before me. Again determined never to marry. Turned off the old tailor, and took a new one in Bond-street. Some of those fellows make a man look ten years younger. Not that that was the reason.

38. Stuck rather more to dinner parties. Gave up country dancing. Money-musk certainly more fatiguing than formerly. Fiddlers play it too quick. Quadrilles stealing hither over the channel. Thought of adding to the number of *grave* gentlemen who learn to dance. Dick Dapper dabbled me one of the *over-grown*s. Very impertinent and utterly untrue.

39. Quadrilles rising. Wondered sober mistresses of families would allow their carpets to be beat after that fashion. Dinner-parties increasing. Found myself gradually *Tontine*-ing it towards top of table. Dreaded *Ultima Thule* of hostess's elbow. Good places for cutting turkeys; bad for cutting jokes. Wondered why I was always desired to walk up. Met two school-fellows at Pimlico; both fat and redfaced. Used to say at school that they were both of my age; what lies boys tell!

40. Look back ten years. Remember, at thirty, thinking forty a middle-aged man. Must have meant fifty. Fifty certainly, the age of wisdom. Determined to be wise in ten years. Wished to learn Music and Italian. Tried *Logier*. "Would not do. No defect of capacity; but those things should be learned in childhood."

41. New furnished chambers. Looked in new glass: one chin too much. Looked in other new glass; chin still double. Art of glass-making on the decline. Sold my horse, and wondered people could find any pleasure in being bumped. What were legs made for?

42. Gout again; that disease certainly attacks young people more than formerly. Caught myself at a rubber of whist, and blushed. Tried my hand at original composition, and found a hankering after epigram and satire. Wondered I could never write love-sonnets. Imitated Horace's ode "*Nec sit ancilla*." Did not mean any thing serious, though Susan is certainly civil and attentive.

43. Bought a hunting-belt. Braced myself up till ready to burst. Intestines not to be trifled with: threw it aside. Young men, nowadays much too small in the waist. Read in *Morning Post* an advertisement "Pills to prevent Corpulency:" bought a box. Never the slimmer, though much the sicker.

44. Met Fanny Stapleton, now Mrs. Meadows, at Bullock's Museum. Twenty-five years ago wanted to marry her. What an escape! Women certainly age much sooner than men. Charles's eldest boy began to think himself a man. Starched cravat and a cane. What presumption! At his age I was a child.

45. A few wrinkles about the eyes, commonly called crow's feet. Must have caught cold. Began to talk politics, and shirk the drawing-room. Enlarged Garrick: saw nothing in Kean. Talked of Lord North. Wondered at the licentiousness of the modern press. Why can't people be civil, like Junius and John Wilkes in the good old times?

46. Rather on the decline; but still handsome and interesting. Growing dislike to the company of young men; all of them talk too much or too little. Began to call chambermaids at Inns "my dear." Thought the money expended upon Waterloo-bridge might have been better employed. Listened to a howl from Capt. Querulous, about family expenses, price of bread and butcher's meat. Did not care a jot, if bread was a shilling a roll, and butcher's meat fifty pounds a calf. Hugged myself in "single blessedness," and wished him a good morning.

47. Top of head quite bald. Pleaded Lord Grey in justification. Shook it, on reflecting that I was but three years removed from the "Age of Wisdom." Teeth sound, but not so white as heretofore. Something the matter with the dentifrice. Began to be cautious in chronology. Bad thing to remember too far back. Had serious thoughts of not remembering Miss Farren.

48. Quite settled not to remember Miss Farren. Told Laura Willis, that Palmer, who died when I was nineteen, certainly did not look forty-eight.

49. Resolved never to marry for any thing but money or rank.

50. Age of wisdom. Married my Cook!

COBBETT'S MAP OF ITALY.

Now, observe, Sicily, as I said before, is an Island in the Mediterranean, forming part of the kingdom of Naples. Italy has been described as a Boot, giving Sicily a kick in that part which it would not be delicate to name. Lay your right leg upon your left knee; and, then, observe that the shin of the Boot is bounded by the Mediterranean, and the sole and back of the leg by the Gulf of Venice. All the part, from the toe to the calf, belongs to Naples, and the city of Naples is on the sea side at about the middle of the small. Then the Pope takes a slice on the shin side going up above the knee and reaching about three parts of the way across the calf, and the city of Rome is in this slice of the Pope. Piedmont, which belongs to the King of Sardinia, begins at the northern extremity of the Pope's slice and runs northward from the Mediterranean, having part of France and Switzerland on one side, and the Austrian territory on the other, which comes down the thigh and along the back of the calf of the leg, bounding the Pope to the point where Naples ends. As the Boot lies in such a manner as to make the top towards the North West, all that part which is above the Pope's territory, is called the North of Italy; and, as is well known, the whole of this part, including the Pope's territory formed at one time, a part of the Empire of Napoleon, and which empire he might, perhaps, still have, had, if he had not taken to his arms a daughter of the Austrian; for which he deserved, not only his fall, but his present humiliation. Thus then, Reader, as you read the accounts of this war, by laying the small of your right leg upon your left knee, if you be not too fat, you will need no Map to give you a rough sketch of the seat of war.



Liberty of the Indian Press.

"To plant is not sufficient, unless like good gardeners you pluck up the weeds that will choke your labours: and the greatest weeds among you are jealousies, root them out. For my actions I dare avow them before God; but jealousies are of a strange depth." "Therefore I would have you, as I have in this place heretofore told you, as St. Paul did Timothy, avoid genealogies, and curious questions, and nice quorks and jerks of the Law, and idle innovations; and if you minister me no just occasion, I never yet was, nor ever shall be curious or captious to quarrel with you."—*Speech of James I. to Parliament, anno 1624.*

"As a Star is a glorious creature, next in place to the Angels; so this Court is the most glorious of all Courts, consisting of Privy-Counsellors, Judges, Peers of the Realm, and Bishops, and consequently the learning of both divine and human law, the experience and practice of Government, are conjoined together in the practice of this Court. I have laboured to gather articles, like an *Index Expurgatorius* of novelties crept into the Law: look to *Plowden's Cases*, and if you find it not there; away with it."—*Speech of James I. in the Star Chamber, anno 1616.*

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

Do me the favour to subjoin the Reply of PERDICCAS to my last Letter,* both as a curiosity in itself, and (coupled with his silence under my first Letter) as a warning to all who shall meditate similar outrages on Law and Justice. His career has been shorter, but his end not less miserable and shameful than that of his celebrated predecessor. PERDICCAS says that I "make no battle," at the same time flinging down his arms and scampering away with all his might. *Abiit, excessit, evasit, erupit.* But his discreet forbearance shall not avail him. He is in the predicament of a certain layman, who having a quarrel with a clergyman said, "Sir, your cloth protects you;" to which the church militant replied, "But it shall not protect you:" and with that he fell to, and pommelled the layman to his heart's content!

But the unanswerable questions which PERDICCAS and his Associate (whose dog-Latin, dog-Greek, and dog-Law go very well together) consider so very peaceable, VINDEX assures the Public, are "unconstitutional, and mischievous, and might in critical times be dangerous and seditious!" One reproaches me because I show no fight; the other this—"a pestilent fellow," one fit to make "critical times" if he did not find them, therefore "dangerous and seditious," and in want as deserving of martyrdom as Lindsay himself.

If the times were ever to become "critical" in this country, would not indefinite imprisonment under a suspension of the Habeas Corpus, and subsequent animadversion on the prisoner by a Court of Justice, afford Government sufficient protection, and arm it with sufficient powers to repress disorder and counteract sedition? Or, grant that the times could be supposed to be of so critical a nature that (as *necessitas vincit legem*) the exercise of the power of Transmission should become necessary to the public welfare; in that case the proceeding might be wholly unobjectionable, but such an admission implies that there can be no colour nor apology whatever for its exercise in ordinary times. "It is the nature of necessity to abolish all law, and, by irresistible violence to dissolve all the weaker and more artificial ties of human society. Not only the Prince, in cases of extreme distress, is exempted from the ordinary rules of administration; all orders of men are then levelled; and any individual may consult the public safety, by any expedient which his situation enables him to employ. But to produce so violent an effect, and so hazardous to every community, an ordinary danger or difficulty is not sufficient; much less a necessity which is merely fictitious and

* To the Editor of John Bull in the East.

SIR,

Nomos makes no battle, and in his last letter I perceive evident symptoms of dissolution. I shall not therefore disturb his dying moments with further taunts or upbraidings, but will dispose of his argument, as I should like to see a few of his Radical friends disposed of—in a summary manner.—"La majeure en est inepte, la mineure impertinente et la conclusion ridicule."—*Moliere.*

I am, &c.

PERDICCAS.

Sept. 4, 1821.

pretended. Where the peril is urgent and extreme, it will be palatable to every member of society; and though all ancient rules of government are in that case abrogated, men will readily, of themselves, submit to that irregular authority, which is exerted for their preservation."† But VINDEX insists, as Charles I. and his eight Judges did in the case of ship-money, that the power of Transportation without Trial shall be employed in the most quiet times for the punishment of any man who may be supposed to bite his thumb at Government, or to have written an "offensive" criticism on their administration, or on the public conduct of any principal Functionary. This is the extent of what VINDEX claims to be just and lawful, and this is what we say Justice utterly repudiates, and not even the Law allows.

It is not pretended that it would be legal in Government to violate any one right of the subject, or to coerce him into the renunciation of any one right, except his right to a Free Press. But what law authorizes the exception? None whatever. "The Liberty of the Press," said Lord Castlereagh on the 22d of December 1819, "as I understand it, is the right which every individual, under the restrictions of the laws, and subject to the decision of a Court of Law and a Trial by Jury, has to communicate his sentiments to his fellow-countrymen, upon every subject, whether that subject be of a moral, a religious, or a political nature." This right we possess as surely and as unqualifiedly as we do the right to Trial by Jury when accused of robbery, forgery, murder, or treason. But Government has no interest to infringe on this last right, because the punishment which the Law decrees is much more severe than any that it would, and as severe as any that it could inflict. It is in cases of misdemeanour, where the punishment prescribed by the Law is less severe than Transportation, that Government is tempted to interpose extra-judicially between the subject and his right. It is in cases of Libel especially, and almost exclusively, that Government is liable to be provoked to over-leap the fences of the Law that it may go straight to its object. But if it is not warranted by Law in proceeding judicially against a man accused of any other crime, neither is it in the case of Libel.

We have the authority of Mr. Fergusson for saying that Censorship is illegal. Why? Because no law has taken from us our right to a Free Press. If then it would be illegal to destroy that right by the institution of a Censorship, it would be equally illegal to destroy it as effectually by Summary Transportation without Trial.

I said that the letter of the Act of Parliament, which gives the general power of Summary Transportation must be explained and controlled by the whole body of the Common Law; (not "Statute Law," as misquoted by VINDEX.) If taken without that restriction, it would lead to numberless absurdities, some of which have been hinted at. Such a general privilege does not abrogate all the Laws which so many good, and wise, and brave men have extorted from the kings of England, for the protection of the liberty of the subject; nor one jot or tittle of one law. If it were of force to annul one provision in favour of person or property, it might supercede all. If it should be asked, for what purpose has the power of summarily transporting persons who forfeit their claims to the countenance and protection of Government been conferred? I answer, for the purpose of in some degree allaying the dread of Colonization; possibly from a secret expectation, that it might be lawfully misapplied to the specific object now contended for. But with the exception of that barely conceivable case of necessity already adverted to, there is no instance in which Government ought to think such a power useful or desirable.

Blackstone says, "If there arise out of Acts of Parliament any absurd consequence, manifestly contradictory to common reason, they are with regard to those collateral consequences, void."—"the Judges are in decency to conclude, that this consequence was not foreseen by the Parliament, and therefore they are at liberty to expound the Statute by equity, and only *quoad hoc* disregard it. Thus if an Act of Parliament gives a man power to try all causes that arise within his manor of Dale; yet if

† Hume, Chap. 52.

a cause should arise in which he himself is party, the act is construed not to extend to that, because it is unreasonable that any man should determine his own quarrel." Now it does not even arise collaterally out of the general words of Stat. 53, Geo. III. cap. 155, that a Court of Star Chamber, or worse, has been created in India; but if it did, since nothing could possibly be more "absurd and unreasonable," the Judges would be bound in decency to conclude that this consequence was not foreseen, and by an equitable construction of the statute, to defeat the absurd consequence. "But," continues Blackstone, "if we could conceive it possible for the Parliament to enact, that he should try as well his own causes as those of other persons, there is no Court that has power to defeat the intent of the Legislature, when couched in such evident and express words, as leave no doubt whether it was the intent of the Legislature or no." But would it follow, even from this express enactment, that the Lord of the manor of Dale would be empowered to adjudge every "offensive" publication a libel, and to exceed the prescribed penalty in punishing the author? By no means. Every "fantastic trick," every eccentric movement into which partiality or caprice might betray our sovereign Lord of the manor, would be duly corrected by a superior tribunal; and he would find, poor man, that though he sat down to a plentiful judicial feast, yet the same austere power which presided at the table of the Governor of Baratavia, would "scowl a baleful smile upon his baffled guest." None of his deviations from Law would be tolerated except when they made against himself. He might sentence himself to be fined, or imprisoned, more than strict justice required; as happened in the case of a certain Pope, who being compelled to try himself for want of a higher tribunal to which the accusing Cardinals could resort, sentenced himself to be burnt. "*Judico me cremari*," said he, *et fuit combustus; et apres fuit un saint*. Such a power, therefore, instead of being an advantage to its possessor, would be a most inconvenient snare from which he would soon petition to be relieved.

No words can more powerfully and unanswerably demonstrate the inutility and injustice of the power for the existence of which VINDEX contends, while he invokes its activity, than the following passage from Burke's "Thoughts on present Discontents." "The laws of this country are for the most part constituted, and wisely so, for the general ends of government, rather than for the preservation of our particular liberties. Whatever, therefore, is done in support of liberty, by persons not in public trust, or not acting merely in that trust, is liable to be more or less out of the ordinary course of law; and the law itself is sufficient to animadvert upon it with great severity. Nothing indeed can hinder that severe letter from crushing us, except the temperament it may receive from a Trial by Jury. But if the habit prevails of going beyond the law, and superseding this judicature, of carrying offence, real or supposed, into the legislative bodies who shall establish themselves into Courts of criminal equity, (so the Star Chamber been called by Lord Bacon,) all the evils of the Star Chamber are revived! A large and liberal construction in ascertaining offences, and a discretionary power in punishing them, is the idea of criminal equity which is in truth, a monster in jurisprudence. It signifies nothing whether a Court for this purpose be a Committee of Council, or a House of Commons, or a House of Lords, the liberty of the subject will be equally subverted by it."

Let us see what remedy the law affords, where power has been abused. "The oppression and tyrannical partiality of judges, justices, and other magistrates, in the administration and under the colour of their office," is, says Blackstone, "a crime of deep malignity; and so much the deeper, as there are many opportunities of putting it in practice, and the power and wealth of the offenders may often deter the injured from a legal prosecution." In the case of *Fabrigas v. Mostyn*, the Plaintiff declared on an Assault at Minorca, &c. an imprisonment for ten months, and exile into Carthage in Spain. The Defendant pleaded 1. the general issue; 2. a special justification; that he was Governor of Minorca, and that the Plaintiff was guilty of a riot, and endeavouring to raise a mutiny: whereupon the Defendant, as Governor, seized, detained him for six days, and banished him to Carthage.

For the Defendant evidence was given that the Plaintiff was a Native of Minorca, that the Minorquins in general are governed by the Spanish laws, and occasionally resort to those of England: that the Plaintiff resided in the Arraval of St. Philip's, where on the trial the power of the Governor was represented to be absolute. The Jury found for the Plaintiff with £3000 damages.

On a Bill of Exceptions, Lord MANSFIELD, in delivering the opinion of the Court, said:—"That the objection, founded on the Plaintiff's being a Native Minorquin was wisely abandoned in the latter part of the argument: for that it was impossible to contend he was therefore less entitled to apply to the King's Courts for Justice, than if born within the sound of Bow bell. That in the Defendant's justification there is nothing by which it is made apparent that he acted in a judicial capacity on this occasion, either in the Arraval of St. Philip or elsewhere: all therefore of a supposed peculiar jurisdiction in that district is out of the case. That it remained whether as Governor, the Defendant was exempt from this action. And here, too, if such exemption exist, it must be pleaded: and if any thing it is a plea in bar of the jurisdiction: he has admitted the jurisdiction by the pleadings upon which this bill of exceptions comes to be argued: but not to rest the answer on this only: so far from its being true, that supposing an action to lie in the Courts for an injury committed by one private individual against another in Minorca, it would not, however, lie against the Governor, the more just and correct statement would have been, that if an action in such circumstances would lie against no other person, yet against the Governor, emphatically, it would." "The action arising on the construction of the extent of his authority under the King's Letters Patent cannot be tried in Minorca: for no question concerning the seignory can be tried within the seignory itself. And to lay down in an English Court of Justice such a monstrous proposition as that a Governor, acting by virtue of Letters Patent under the Great Seal, is accountable only to God and his own conscience, that he is absolutely despotic, and can spoil, plunder, and affect his Majesty's subjects, both in their liberty and property, with impunity, is a doctrine that cannot be maintained." The Court was unanimous that the action well lay, and was rightly brought.

We may well imagine that there were in those days in the Island of Minorca, two parties; one consisting of a PERDICCAS, a VINDEX, and two or three more, who asserted the Governor's power of transmitting vagabonds, especially those addicted to inquiries into "genealogies and curious questions, and nice quibbles and jerks of the law;" the other consisting of the rest of the inhabitants who denied it; and who were doubtless represented as a dejected and scattered Radical faction, whose vain prate and mystical jargon was extremely offensive, unconstitutional, mischievous, and might at any time be adjudged dangerous and seditious, since it even amounted to placing themselves above the Supreme Government of the Island.

In the case of *Sutton v. Johnstone* the Lord Chief Baron EYRE "compared the protection allowed to Military Officers to that extended to inferior Civil Magistrates, who shall not suffer for misapprehension or mistake, but for deliberate acts of arbitrary abuse in the exercise of the authority entrusted to them. That to Judges indeed and Jurors it [action on the case] cannot apply: because the Law calls them to the exercise of those specific functions, and cannot withhold faith and credence from those whom it appoints to carry its provisions into effect. But a Commander in Chief has a general authority, to which sentence on those under his command is merely incidental, and is in the condition of every other subject in this country, who, being intrusted with general powers, has responsibility annexed to his situation." "That there may be cases where the extent of the power is and should be unbounded, while acting with a view to its legal object; but none where it is necessary or permissible that it should act without this object: and happily for those who live under the constitution of a free Government, it is impossible to state a case where it can be abused with impunity."

"An action of the same form with this had been brought (*Sutherland v. Murray*) where the Plaintiff was Judge of the Vice-Admiralty Court in Minorca, and the Defendant Governor and Vice-Admiral of the Island. And the allegation there was that

Tuesday, September 11, 1821.

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the Defendant maliciously, and without any reasonable or probable cause, suspended him from the said office, whereby he lost his profits, &c. On the evidence it appeared that General Murray had LEGAL AUTHORITY TO SUSPEND till the King's pleasure were known; that having so suspended, he directed the Secretary of State to take the King's pleasure on it: that the General professed his readiness to restore him IF HE MADE A PARTICULAR APOLOGY: that this condition of reinstatement had been approved by the King. Yet there the Plaintiff recovered £5000; and it was not attempted to arrest the judgment."

VINDEX says that, "As the wisest institutions and best of human beings are by nature fallible, I admit that the Government might err in the use of a privilege so properly vested in them." So! What natural infirmity is it that makes the wisest institutions fallible? But let that pass. We see that what Burke, and the best, (I may say all) English Statesmen and Lawyers stigmatize as a monster in jurisprudence, is maintained by VINDEX and JAMES I. to be wise and glorious! Government may err, indeed, blamelessly while acting with a view to the legal objects of its power; but its errors will not be tolerated if committed in the pursuit and attainment of illegal objects. If it assume to itself a general, or particular criminal jurisdiction it must err. Errors enough have been committed both at Madras and Calcutta, to warn Government against the danger of advancing a single step in so perilous a path. As to the Madras cases, are they not written in the book of Marsh the Barrister? During the present administration Transmission has only been applied from motives of humanity and favour to those who were consenting; cases essentially different from those to which VINDEX wishes to see it applied. But Lord Wellesley transmitted Mr. McClean, in 1798, for refusing to apologize for having written a disrespectful insinuation against the public conduct of the Magistrate at Ghazepore, who had refused to take bail for a Gentleman (Mr. Allan McClean) accused of a common assault, and forced him on board a small boat under a guard of Sepoys, to the endangering of his life from exposure to the sun and rain. Another colour was then found for the proceeding with which it was resolved to punish Mr. McClean's offence, namely that he was residing in Calcutta (and had been for four years!) without a licence. Mr. McClean was compelled to embark as a charter-party passenger, leaving his wife behind, for whom, he was informed, the same accommodation would have been provided, "as usual in such cases," if he had chosen to accept it! Here is a genuine case of Transmission, technically so called, totus, teres, atque rotundus. For some time this "vagabond" Mr. (now Dr.) McClean made loud complaints and vehement remonstrances, not sparing monopoly, and other such curious genealogies; but the Honorable Company having indemnified him by a comfortable appointment, he now writes pamphlets in defence of monopoly.

The provisions of "the Will," it appears, are more numerous than VINDEX dreamt of; and I find in them abundant proofs of the illegality of Transmission. Its LEGALITY is the shoulder-knot which VINDEX cannot find, but which he wears notwithstanding, and is as proud of it as a Savoyard of his goitre. His next step will be to bind the word TRANSMISSIONIST on his forehead as a phylactery. Another feature that he has in common with one of Swift's triumvirate is his partiality for Bulls, and his confidence in their strength and bellowing. A Bull was also a favourite instrument for the maintenance of social order with Phalaris; but whereas he used to roast "vagabonds" in his Bull, that of VINDEX would seem to be animated by the soul of Phalaris himself, so tyrannical are the principles which issue from it.

It has often happened that the abettors of arbitrary power have felt the edge of the engines they had prepared for the annoyance or destruction of others. Of the truth of this remark VINDEX will not afford an example; because he will never see that ruthless power "throne by the East." Nevertheless such men as VINDEX are the most subtle enemies this Government has to encounter, and the greatest detractors from its strength and fame. They point its ambition to what it ought most anxiously to shun, and decry that respect for the sacred barriers of Law and Justice, which constitutes its true glory.

September 10, 1821.

NOMOS.

Military Query.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

You will oblige me, by giving the following Query a place in your Journal, for the purpose of its being replied to, by some of your Military Correspondents.

If an Officer, who has always been allowed a Night Guard at his Quarters, has been so unfortunate as to be placed in arrest, is such Officer as fully entitled to his Night Guard, although a Prisoner, as when he was at liberty?—I am, Sir, your's, &c.

Hingolee, Aug. 1, 1821.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Slowness of Promotion.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

It is a very general complaint in the Indian Army, that Promotion is so exceedingly slow, as to damp the ardour and spirits of those now entering the Service, as well as of those who have toiled through the subordinate ranks; I am therefore induced to hope that any proposition for accelerating it, without encroaching on the funds of our Employers, further than our present contract with them authorizes, would be well received by the Army, and approved of by the Government. What I am about to propose will only affect the Infantry, but as that is the Line at present most backward in Promotion, and as the funds I propose using are the property of the Infantry, I can anticipate no objections on that score. The following is my Plan:—

The surplus of the half-mounting stoppages are at present the authorized perquisite of Lieutenant Colonels Commanding Battalions, or, in their absence, of the Officers actually in charge in charge; and it is from this Fund, I propose the Army in general, but Lieutenant Colonels in particular, should reap a greater advantage than is at present the case.

I believe I may calculate the surplus of the half-mounting stoppages of each Battalion to be at least 2000 Rupees per annum, which for sixty Battalions, amounts to Rupees 1,20,000—equal to £15,000. The Pension of a Lieutenant Colonel who has served 22 years in India (and all who have not had a furlough must have served that period), is £360. I propose giving 23 Lieutenant Colonels, the option of immediately retiring on a Pension of £1,000 per annum, that is their regular and authorized Pension of £360 from the Government, and £640 from this Fund. This would leave a small balance of £380 in favor of the Fund to cover expenses.

It may perhaps be said that this arrangement would cost the Government £8280 in Pensions, and no doubt it might tend so to do; but a liberal Government would not complain of this, when it is recollected that every Individual who would thus claim the Pension, has acquired a right to it by previous contract on entering the Service.

Such an arrangement would relieve the Army by immediately giving 23 Line Steps, and all Casualties among them would continue to be steps, as the Fund would always provide for a Retired List of 23.

In the event of so many Lieutenant Colonels not choosing to retire, the Senior Majors might have the option of supplying their places, by receiving the same sum, or £640 from the Fund, and on a vacancy occurring, the Senior Lieutenant Colonel to have again the option. I have no doubt this Plan might be improved upon, and I shall be happy to see those take it in hand more capable of doing it justice than

Your obedient Servant,

Upper Provinces, August 20, 1821.

A—B—

Personal Attack of Aristides.*To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.*

SIR,

I have read with great pain, in the columns of the *Hurkaru* Newspaper of the 5th instant, a letter signed ARISTIDES, purporting to be indited on the Banks of the Nerbuddah, which contains more gross and palpable personalities, than I think can be found in all the Prints of the Settlement for a year together. Three Officers of the Government, one of them exercising a high and confidential trust, are expressly vituperated by name, and two others are pointed at in terms of unquestionable malignity. I do really believe, that the Public will think that these gross personalities have no relation whatever to the merits or demerits of the Question which the writer pretends to examine—the Trade of the Indian Islands.

Whether an individual holding the situation of Town Major, and proceeding to England on public duty, without relinquishing that situation, is entitled by military etiquette to be denominated Major, is a trifle in itself so exceedingly unimportant, that it does not deserve a moment's consideration. I shall take the trouble, however, of refuting such statements and objections of the writer in question, as have any semblance of plausibility. One of his great objects appears to be the disparagement of Singapore, and he most patriotically proposes, that we should have recourse to the delectable alternative of giving it back to the Malays, or ceding it to the Dutch. A Committee of the House of Lords differ in opinion from ARISTIDES, and strongly recommend the utility of Singapore to the Trade of the Empire.

From the sworn evidence before them, it appears to have contained under the Government, recommended by ARISTIDES, two hundred inhabitants; to have encreased under the Government denounced by him, in three months to 3,900, and in one year to 10,000, and now contains, after the terrors of "restoration" have hung over it for more than a year together, between 11 and 12,000. From the quantity of Shipping lately sent, and and now sending by the merchants of Calcutta to this "paltry place," I should conceive they are as little inclined as the Lord's Committee, to agree with ARISTIDES. The same intelligent writer assures us that independent of the trade of Java and the Moluccas, the whole commerce of the Archipelago would not afford employment for 1000 tons of Shipping a year. For a refutation of this, I refer to the Calcutta Newspapers for the last month, which will exhibit double the amount of this tonnage between the port of Calcutta and Singapore alone. After this, it is scarcely necessary to refer to the cargoes carried off to China, by the Ships of the East India Company, the pepper trade of the Americans, or to such portion of the Free Trade as finds its way to the West coast of Sumatra and Penang.

No person who ventures to argue upon this subject ought to be ignorant that Java owes a great portion of its Trade to its being an Entrepôt for the Trade of the rest of the Archipelago. Except coffee, and sugar, which are its own productions, and cloves and nutmegs, the produce of the Moluccas, it owes every thing else to the neighbouring countries. Why then should any Englishman be displeased, that the enterprise or industry of his countrymen should be rewarded by a portion of that Commerce?

ARISTIDES is pleased to be angry, that the great groupe of the Eastern Islands should be called the Eastern Archipelago, and tells us, that it has "of late been magnificently so styled." He might just as well complain, that America has been of late styled the New World. For the geographical term of "the Eastern Archipelago" we have a hundred respectable authorities, and among others, the classical and indisputable one of the Historian of Charles V. and of America, who repeats it over and over again. French, German, and English geographers have so commonly adopted it, that the expression is become so popular that it is really ridiculous to be ignorant of it.

This blundering writer, whose pretended object is to correct the mis-statements and expose the infidelity of those to whom he is hostile, exhibits in his own letter one glaring and palpable example of dishonesty. He dates his letter from the banks of Nerbuddah on the 16th of August, and forgetting or being ignorant that the Dawk could not reach that place under five and twenty days, he tells us that he there and then read the *Hurkaru* of the 11th of the same month. But after all, perhaps, the greatest error which this writer has committed, is that with which he concludes his letter, the assumption of the signature of ARISTIDES. Either this ought to be corrected in future Communications, or the style and manner of the said Communications undergo an entire reformation.* Further, I recommend to him, when he would again assail the argument of an antagonist, not to choose for the period of attack, the moment when his antagonist is laboring under some domestic misfortune; when he has perhaps lost a brother, a son, or a near relative, or possibly all three.

I am, Sir, your's, &c.

A LOVER OF JUSTICE.

Calcutta, }
Sept. 7, 1821. }

* There were two persons of this name;—one, the Rival of The-mistocles, whose great temperance and virtue procured him the surname of The Just;—and the other, an Historian of Miletus fonder of stories and anecdotes than of Truth. The latter might apply well enough to the Author of such wanton and personal abuse as this Letter in the *Hurkaru* contains.

Mrs. Francis's Benefit.

The Performances selected for Representation at Dum-Dum, to-morrow evening, are not only attractive in themselves, but have a strong additional claim to public attention, from their shewing Miss Williams—for the last time—in two characters of great interest, and one of them *Mrs. Oakley*, perhaps the very best in which she has ever appeared.

We have reason to believe, indeed, that Dum Dum will be honored with more Visitors from Calcutta, on this occasion than on any former one: and that Mrs. Francis will have the benefit of an overflowing audience. The state of the roads, and the probability of a clear moon-light will be favorable to the drive:—indeed the inducements are altogether so powerful, that few, if any, of the Friends of the Drama, or of the Admirers of Miss Williams's Dramatic talents, will, we imagine, remain at home.

To Correspondents.

Letter II, of Iota—Rejoinder of Castpalta—Letter of D— and the Lines of Cytheron—are all received through the Letter Box, and will each have a place.

Births.

At Meerut, on the 12th ultimo, the Lady of Captain John Jenkins, of His Majesty's 11th Light Dragoons, of a Son.

At Mymensing, on the 31st ultimo, Mrs. James Radcliffe, of a Son.

At Vort Victoria, on the 8th ultimo, the Lady of Captain Morse, of a Son.

Deaths.

On the 9th instant, Captain Charles Court, Marine Surveyor General, aged 46 years.

At Benares, on the 31st ultimo, in progress to join the Battalion, he was appointed to do duty with at Delhy, Ensign John Clark, aged 19 years.

At Bombay, on the 14th ultimo, Mr. John Hart.

In Fort St. George, on the 19th ultimo, William Orr, the infant Son of Lieutenant Roe, (2) His Majesty's 30th Regiment.

At Broach, on the 4th ultimo, Charles, the infant Son of Captain Campbell, Commissary of Stores, aged 11 months.

On board the *Sir Stephen Lushington*, on the 10th of June last, Captain William Perkins, of the 10th Regiment of Native Infantry.